Unf ortunately, however, the President showed but little judgment in his appointments to high command In the army. The senior officers In the regular army were men too far advanced in life to be of great service in the field. It was, therefore, not only necessary to relieve them from active duty, but it was possible to fill their places by promoting the most capable and promising of the younger officers. This, to a certain extent, was done, it is true; but along with these appointments were made many others from civil life, several of which were to positions of very high grade, and to these officers Important commands were generally assigned* Thus, in the East, Butler, who had commanded the Massachusetts militia which had gone to Washington, and Banks, who had IXHUI Governor of that State, and also Speaker of the National House of Representatives,—-both men without any military training or experience whatever,—-were made major-generals of volunteers; while in the West, Fremont, who had unsuccessfully contended for the Presidency with Buchanan in 1850, and who had achieved some distinction as an explorer in the far North west, was made a major-general in the regular army, and appointed to the chief command in Missouri, where he superseded the brave and capable Lyon, to wliowe

courage and skill the preservation of that State to the Union was largely due. All these appointments were wholly unnecessary; that of Fremont, though demanded on the score of MB pant political prominence, should never have been made for that reason; a commission of a much lower grade in the regular service, or that of brigadier-general of volunteers,, would